

Biography: Sarah F. Cliffe



Sarah Cliffe is Special Adviser and Assistant Secretary-General of Civilian Capacities to the United Nations. Prior to that, she has been Special Representative and Director for the 2011 World Development Report on Conflict, Security and Development. Sarah Cliffe has worked for the last twenty years in countries emerging from conflict and political transition, covering Afghanistan, Burundi, CAR, DRC, Guinea Bissau, Ethiopia, Haiti, Indonesia, Liberia, Rwanda, Sudan, South Africa, and Timor Leste.

At the World Bank, her work has covered post-conflict reconstruction, community driven development and civil service reform. She was Chief of mission for the Bank's program in Timor-Leste from 1999 to 2002; led the Bank's Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries Group from 2002-2007; and was Director of Strategy and Operations for the East Asia and Pacific Region from 2007-2009. Ms. Cliffe has also worked for the United Nations Development Programme in Rwanda, the Government of South Africa, and the Congress of South African Trade Unions, as well as for a major management consultancy company in the United Kingdom on public sector reform issues. She holds degrees in History and Economic Development from Cambridge and Columbia Universities.